

Amendment to Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 and 2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A self-stabilizing, moment-resistant, collar-form, elongate-column/elongate-beam interconnect structure for use in a building comprising

a collar-form column-attachable (CA) member including plural, laterally outwardly facing, sloping, interconnection bearing faces, and

a collar-form beam-end-attachable (BA) member including plural, laterally inwardly facing, sloping, interconnection bearing faces which substantially parallel said outwardly facing bearing faces,

said CA and BA members being constructed for seated interconnection in a manner whereby gravity causes their respective bearing faces to seat self-seekingly and complementarily relative to one another in confronting, bearing-face opposition, thereby to establish nominal, three-dimensional, lateral positional and moment-resistant stability between the two members without the requirement for any other interconnecting structure.

Claim 4. (Original) The interconnect structure of claim 3, wherein said CA and BA members include complementarily mateable cleat and socket structure.

Claims 5-7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Currently amended) Moment-resistant, spatial-position-determining and stabilizing interconnect structure for interconnecting, during the preliminary construction of a building, the end of an elongate, generally horizontal beam to an elongate, generally upright column, said interconnect structure, in operative condition, comprising

a first, inner, interconnect collar structure anchored to such a column circumsurroundingly relative to the column's long axis, and including first, gravity-utilizing, outwardly facing, sloping, bearing-face substructure including outwardly facing bearing faces , and

second, outer, interconnect collar structure anchored adjacent the end of such a beam, and including second, gravity-utilizing, inwardly facing, sloping, bearing-face substructure including inwardly facing bearing faces which substantially parallel said outwardly facing bearing faces ,

said second, bearing-face substructure being seatingly mateable, under the influence of gravity, on and with respect to said first bearing-face substructure during preliminary building construction to establish a gravity-locked and stabilized, moment-resistant interconnection between the associated column and beam, which interconnection tends to create, independently, the correct spatial disposition of the column and beam in the building.

Claims 9-11. (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (Currently amended) Gravity-lock, self-positioning and stabilizing, moment-frame building structure comprising

plural elongate columns each equipped, at one or more locations along their respective lengths,

with axially circumsurrounding inner collar structure which includes first-gender, gravity-effective cleat structure including laterally outwardly facing sloping face structure including outwardly facing faces, and

plural elongate beams each attached, adjacent opposite ends, to outer collar structure which includes second-gender, gravity-effective cleat structure that is mateable, under the influence of gravity, complementarily with said first-gender cleat structure, said second-mentioned cleat structure including laterally inwardly facing, sloping face structure which is complementarily contactable with said first-mentioned sloping face structure, and which includes inwardly facing faces that substantially parallel said outwardly facing faces,

gravity-mating of said first- and second-gender cleat and sloping face structures creating therebetween, and thus between the associated column and beam, a gravity-locked, stabilized, correctly relatively positioned, moment-resistant interconnection between that column and beam.

Claims 13-15. (Cancelled)

Claim 16. (Previously presented) A self-stabilizing, moment-resistant, collar-form, elongate-column/elongate-beam interconnect structure for use in a building comprising

a collar-form beam-end-attachable (BA) member including plural, operatively associated, bolt-interconnected components possessing plural interconnection bearing faces, and

a collar-form column-attachable (CA) member including plural, operatively associated components having plural bolt-clearance passages and possessing plural interconnection bearing faces,

said BA and CA members being constructed for seated interconnection in a manner whereby gravity causes their respective components' bearing faces to seat self-seekingly and complementarily relative to one another in confronting, bearing-face opposition, thereby to establish nominal, three-dimensional, positional and moment-resistant stability between the two members without the requirement for any other interconnecting structure, said BA and CA members, when so seated relative to one another, and with respect to bolts which include shanks interconnecting said BA members, being positionally related in a manner whereby the shanks in said bolts extend within said clearance passages to impeded unseating of the BA and CA members.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) A self-stabilizing, moment-resistant, collar-form, elongate-column/elongate-beam interconnect structure for use in a building comprising

a collar-form column-attachable (CA) member including plural interconnection bearing faces, and

a collar-form beam-end-attachable (BA) member including plural interconnection bearing faces,

said CA and BA members being constructed for seated interconnection in a manner whereby gravity causes their respective bearing faces, which faces each lies in a plane which slopes downwardly and away from a column long axis, to seat self-seekingly and complementarily relative to one another in confronting, bearing-face opposition, thereby to establish nominal, three-dimensional, positional and moment-resistant stability between the two members without the requirement for any other interconnecting structure.